

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A method to recover receptors without removing microenvironmental components associated with them is described. The membranes containing the receptors are first associated with ligand-coupled solid supports to achieve association of the membranes through a receptor/ligand complex which includes the microenvironment to the solid support and then removing the membrane from the receptor and its microenvironment by shear forces. The thus isolated receptors and their microenvironments can then be analyzed for their role in cellular differentiation, apoptosis, transformation and the like.